

# MACDONALD COLLEGE JOURNAL



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Farm · Home · School



THE MACDONALD LASSIE



## The Flood That Jarred A Nation

A friend's sister and her three small children arrived this spring for a visit. Since they lived hundreds of miles away this was the first chance the children of the two families had ever had to get acquainted, and it should have been a joyful occasion. But it wasn't. Even for the baby, something was missing; and a dark cloud hung constantly over the others.

This woman and her children were refugees from Winnipeg. The flood waters, bursting dike after dike, had threatened their home and they had been forced to join the stream of displaced persons who went wherever they could find refuge. All but the father; he had stayed to fight the flood. Like practically all the other men in the city he had worked long hours day after day, lying down to rest in the nearest shelter only when his arms refused to lift another sandbag.

His family, with what clothes they could bring, had come to Montreal to find sanctuary from the flood. They were just one family among many that scattered into almost every town and city between Vancouver and Halifax, for an indefinite stay. At the best, they didn't know when they could return to their homes; at the worst, they had no homes to return to, and no means of building new ones.

Nor did their troubles vanish as the rivers dropped back into their normal channels. Some homes that represented the work of a lifetime had completely disappeared. Others still stood on their foundations, but they had been so battered by the raging waters that they would have to be completely rebuilt. In the luckier ones, where the waters had moved more slowly, the buildings were still structurally sound, but no-one could live in them until they had been entirely renovated. Clothing and furniture were ruined by the water, and everything was coated with a thick layer of mud.

Mud. Mud everywhere. Mud feet deep. Mud that had once been soil on the farms of Minnesota, North Dakota and Manitoba. Now mud. Mud in basements where there had been houses. Mud in kitchen and

living rooms and bedrooms. Mud in the fields. Mud engulfing the bodies of cattle and horses and pigs and chickens. Mud speckled with grain and streaked with hay. Mud laced with boards from houses and barns and granaries. Mud lying deep and wet on fields that should now be green with waving grain.

Great channels gouged through fields. Topsoil washed down to the flats, covered with subsoil. Livestock gone, feed gone, buildings ruined, implements clogged up with mud. Fields that could not be worked this year — fields that once grew the bumper crops for which the Red River Valley was famous. These were the grim facts that faced many Manitoba farmers.

But this flood was unusual only in its scale; it affected more people than any other flood in Canada's history. But year after year, some farmers face the same conditions. More people in more places are likely to face them each year until Canada gets a real flood control program under way. And any real flood control program must be based on soil and water conservation.

Unfortunately, all but those most directly affected tend to forget disasters quickly — and to forget, too, the lessons taught by these disasters. There is a danger that, as soon as the mud has dried on the Winnipeg plains and the evacuees have returned to rebuild their lives, other events will shove the flood problem into the back of other people's minds. And there it is likely to remain until a new flood recalls it violently to some of us.

This need not be. If, through our organizations, we make an active effort to build support for soil conservation and flood control programs, we and our children will be less likely to suffer.

### Our Cover Picture

In the olden days, this machine was probably the last word in motive power. It is an old Normandy type wind-power threshing machine and may still be seen at Isle Aux Coudres, Que. Photo by courtesy of the C.N.R.

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# 28 Cows on 10 Acres

That's a lot of cows for a small pasture. But Ralph Zwicker has built up his land to a point where it can really produce grain, forage and roots.

A HUGE new barn in an area where, for a good many years, no other new barns have been built — that should indicate that the owner has either made money from something else, or that he's really learned how to farm. And Ralph Zwicker's 108 by 38 barn has come from his land.

The mow will hold 200 tons of hay, and Ralph expects to need most of the space in good years. Not that he has so much land — only 110 acres, 10 in fertilized pasture, 75 in crop rotation and the balance in rough pasture and woodlot, so that the hay must come from the rotation. But even last year, when crops generally were poor, Ralph had a good stand.

What's more, for all but a few days last season he carried a herd of 28 cows on his 10 acres of fertilized pasture; and he's the only farmer in the area who consistently sells milk all year round.

This farm wasn't always so good. Twenty years ago it was much the same as those around it, barely managing to pasture five cows and two horses and to grow enough hay and grain to carry this handful of stock through the winter.

Now the rotated cropland produces as much as 70 bushels of Ajax oats per acre. But the change has not appeared overnight. It's the result of a long program of fertilization and crop rotation. The rotation Ralph has found most satisfactory is a five-year one of grain, turnips, grain seeded down and two years of hay.

Ralph has found it most satisfactory to apply the manure and fertilizer in the hoed crop year. He puts on



The new 108 x 38 barn on Ralph Zwicker's farm.

12 tons of manure per acre and 1,000 pounds of 3-15-6. And for the special benefit of the turnips he broadcasts 15 pounds of boron, to protect them from brown heart. His hay mixture includes timothy and red clover, with alsike and alfalfa added for his heavy soils. The alfalfa is inoculated to ensure bacterial action.

Ralph has been testing a lot of fertilizer treatments on his pasture, and under his conditions the best results seem to come from an annual application of 600 pounds of superphosphate about the first of May on land that got two tons of lime in 1941. On these plots the ground is thickly matted with clover and there is a rich growth of grass, while on the unfertilized plots in the same pasture there is less clover to compete with weeds and moss, and the grass doesn't do so well.

If the whole 10 acres got the superphosphate the field would carry even more than the 28 cows. But by carrying on the test Mr. Zwicker has been able to learn just what each treatment is worth on his farm.

This experience is the result of a decision Ralph's father, Charles Zwicker, made back in 1927. He decided



Four of the 28 cows that pastured on 10 acres.



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to co-operate with the Illustration Station division of the Dominion Experimental Farms. And when Ralph took over the farm in 1938, at the age of 20, he'd seen enough benefits to want to continue the collaboration. Comparing his results with those of neighbouring farmers, it's easy to see the wisdom of his decision.

It's also easy to understand why Fred Kinsman, the illustration station supervisor at Kentville, is so enthusiastic about pasture improvement. He says:

"If we used superphosphate, ground limestone and even eight tons of manure per acre we could improve the pastures in the province 1,000 percent." It's a rather broad statement, but after seeing the evidence, it isn't hard to believe that there may be considerable truth in it. After all, some of the plots at Kentville have produced almost 13 tons of pasture per acre on land which, unfertilized, produced 2,730 pounds. And the increase in yield cost only 87 cents a ton for fertilizer.

## What Goes Into Pasture?

What is good pasture? The term is used a great deal, often without much thought about its implications. But what should be expected of a pasture?

First, it should be ready to use early in the spring. Pasture is our cheapest roughage, and the sooner animals can be safely put out on it, the lower will be the cost of production

Since any pasture that will carry a herd through the season will produce more than the animals can use during the flush period in June, flexible crops should be used so that either hay or grass silage may be made from the excess growth.

Through use of improved mixtures it is possible to keep production up during the normally low-pasture period in July and August. A further boost may be given by feeding grass silage made of the June flush. Second growth hay fields may be used to supplement grazing; if the crop was taken off for silage these fields will provide a lot of feed.

The pasture period may be extended into late fall by providing supplementary grazing such as oats or fall rye. This will keep milk production from taking a drop from which it will never recover.

To get really good pasture results it is necessary to use improved grass and legume species, such as alfalfa, Ladino, and Reed canary grass, and others especially adapted to the local conditions. It must be considered as a crop, and limed, fertilized and manured according to its requirements.

Management practices such as fencing for rotation and the spread of droppings, arranging for convenience of pasture to barn, providing water and shade in each field, all make a better pasture program.

## Lime Pays 3 to 1 in N.S.

Every dollar invested in lime in Nova Scotia will return at least \$3.00. That's the striking message carried in a folder "A Five-Point Lime Programme" just released by the N.S. Department of Agriculture and Marketing. This big return comes from increased crop yields, improved hay and better clover growth, which in turn are brought about by lime correcting soil acidity, supplying calcium and magnesium and promoting decay of organic matter.

The folder recommends applying one ton per acre on sod, one ton per acre every two years on pasture; one or two tons per acre, evenly distributed, on stubble; two tons per acre on land being seeded; and 100 pounds per 1,000 square feet of soil in gardens. If applied in the spring, it should be as early as possible; if in the summer, after haying and before fall plowing. The fall is one of the best times in the year for application; and lime may also be applied in winter on fields that do not wash. Bulk lime may be applied by hand from a wagon or truck, while spreaders will handle either bulk or bagged lime.

Some 95% of Nova Scotia soils are acid, says the folder, which encourages farmers to consult their agricultural representatives for information concerning soil analysis. To encourage application of lime at seasons when it will do the most good the province has established a two-price schedule — \$1.50 per ton from June 16 to April 15, and \$2.00 per ton from April 16 to June 15. These prices are for bulk carlots of at least 30 tons delivered at the farmer's nearest railway siding, or at the quarry. Bagged lime costs \$1.35 per ton extra.

## Gets Award for Good Feeding

In recognition of his outstanding contribution to agriculture, as a feeder and judge of commercial livestock, a diploma certifying to his long and valuable work was presented to James Gallagher, veteran farmer of Flamboro Township in Wentworth County, Ontario

The gathering was unique in many ways. It took place in the barn on the Gallagher Farm situated three miles from Waterdown. Mimeographed programs were handed to the large assembly of agriculturist friends of Mr. Gallagher who had gathered. And printed prominently on them was the admonition: "Please no smoking." Presiding was Howard Gallagher, president of Flamboro and Waterdown Agricultural Society, the group which nominated Mr. Gallagher for the award.

In making the presentation F. A. Lashley of the Agricultural Societies Branch, Ontario Department of Agriculture, referred to Mr. Gallagher's rare ability in feeding, fitting and showing livestock. During 20 years in Wentworth County, he has purchased, fed and shipped nearly a hundred baby beef cattle each year and an average of from 1,800 to 2,000 lambs each year for the entire 20 years.

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# They Want Greener Pastures

by J. S. Cram

A UNIVERSAL farm question — how to lower costs of production was tackled at a conference of Sherbrooke and Compton county farmers in Lennoxville this spring. It was sponsored jointly by the Sherbrooke district farm forums and the Concentrated Milk Producers' Association.

The need for action in this matter was pointed up by R. l'Ecuyer of the Quebec Department of Agriculture, when he reported the findings in a survey of milk production costs in the counties of Sherbrooke, Compton, Stanstead and Richmond. His figures showed that it cost the average farmer \$3.48 per 100 pounds to produce milk which sold for an average of \$3.34. This meant that the average farmer was taking a loss of 14 cents per hundred. Under these circumstances, milk could be produced only by mining the land, neglecting repairs and replacement for buildings, and exploiting family labour.

However, 12 farms managed to produce milk at an average of \$2.60 per hundredweight, so with the price at \$3.34 they had a fair margin. It cost others as much as \$5.00 a hundredweight, so they really took a loss.

The great variations in cost of production involved breeding and management, but were mainly due to fluctuations in feed costs, said Mr. l'Ecuyer. Feed accounted for over half the total cost. And while the average cost of feed per hundredweight of milk on the 48 farms was over \$2.50 on the 12 farms that got the best returns it was only \$2.00.

Mr. l'Ecuyer pointed out the advantage of keeping records and feeding meal only to cows that needed it, in proportion to their milk flow. He also stressed the importance of good forage in holding down the cost of bought feed.

This led right in to the main part of the conference, where F. S. Nowosad of the Division of Forage Crops,

**With prospects pointing to lower prices, these Eastern Townships farmers got together to see how they could lower their costs of production. The simplest way seemed to be cutting feed bills by producing more nutritious forage on their own farms.**

Central Experimental Farm, led the discussion. Mr. Nowosad dealt with every major phase of forage improvement. He showed the value of getting a soil test to start with, then talking over lime and fertilizer requirements with an agronomer or experimental farm expert. And he warned against wasting good seed on land that was too rough to plough.

"If you can grow alfalfa you should use it in every mixture," said Mr. Nowosad, moving on to forage species. He said that every farm also had a place for Reed canary grass, which would grow in water, and also on high land. He pointed out that there was a species for each soil type and purpose, and said that getting the right variety was just as important with forage crops as with grain.

## Grass Silage for 12 Years

Grass silage drew keen interest when W. S. Richardson of the Lennoxville Experimental Station opened up a discussion on it. The subject was not new to the farmers at the meeting, as one had used grass silage for 12 years, and another for two years. They pointed out that hay silage helps to clean up the land, as it is harvested before weeds have a chance to mature. It also helps to level off summer feeding and milk production, by making full use of the June flush of grass; and since the crop is taken off earlier for silage than for hay, it gives the aftermath a good chance.

Although grass silage could be made without any preservative, Mr. Richardson said it was a good idea to mix in each ton about 40 pounds of molasses, diluted with at least as much water. Using molasses it was much easier to avoid loss in the silage, which was also nicer to handle.

"The Ottawa Dairy Farm makes grass silage every day except when it's actually raining," remarked Mr. Nowosad, pointing out that this took much of the gamble out of haying. He went on to say that the big value of grass silage was the reduction in feed bills it made possible because of its high protein value. With good ensilage it was possible to cut the use of grain to a half or even a third without sacrificing any milk.

A survey made by 40 people at an evening meeting showed that a great many signs pointing to a need for



Cattle get more exercise than feed from pastures like this.



pasture improvement were seen in the Sherbrooke area. Many pastures were being taken over by hardhack, red birch, mossy knolls and scrub trees, almost everyone reported. Over 90 percent of the people had seen soil piling up at the bottom of fields, as a result of washing, gullying and wind storms. Where this soil came from was shown in reports that many knolls were bare-topped, and that the level of soil in fields was going down. Lack of humus was mentioned by 70 percent, and still more said that crop yields were being maintained only through the use of more fertilizer.

In prescribing controls for these troubles, most of the group suggested increasing hay and pasture crops, using more of them in rotations. They were also in favour of making more use of manure, lime and commercial fertilizer, of tile draining where practical, and of following a modified system of contouring which would fit their short slopes.

"Wherever there is good grass cover, erosion is uncommon," was one statement that seemed to sum up the general experience of the crowd as a whole. It led to a discussion on how farmers could get started on forage improvement when they had little money to work with.

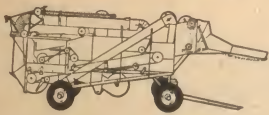
"It doesn't all need to be done at once," said Mr. Nowosad. "Almost any farmer could undertake to improve five acres a year at an extra cost of \$5.00 an acre over what he'd have spent anyway. He could get good returns

for his \$5.00 by applying \$4.00 worth of superphosphate and adding half a pound of Ladino seed to his mixture. In a few years of this he could pretty well cover his whole farm."

J. A. Ste. Marie of the Lennoxville Experimental Station pointed out that Mr. l'Ecuyer's survey showed the average farmer used 2½ acres per animal unit for pasture, which was far more than would be needed if the pasture were good. He said that pasture improvement would liberate acreage to grow more grain, thus making it possible to buy less feed—a direct cash saving. The need to get more returns from the acreage now under pasture was underlined by Charlie Drummond, chairman of the committee which organized the conference. Waymer Labaree of Bulwer, secretary of the Concentrated Milk Producers' Association, suggested a pasture improvement competition. He visualized entries from numerous districts, which would serve as demonstrations of the value of pasture improvement. This idea drew general support, and it was decided to ask that the Sherbrooke County Farm Forum Committee to consider sponsoring such a competition, and to pass the idea on to the similar committees in Compton and Stanstead.

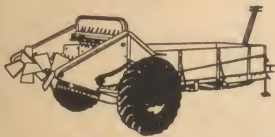
Several other lines of attack on pasture improvement were also suggested. They included soil analysis, field days at the experimental station and tours to good pasture areas in other parts of Quebec and across the U.S. border.

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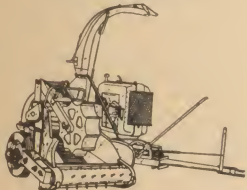
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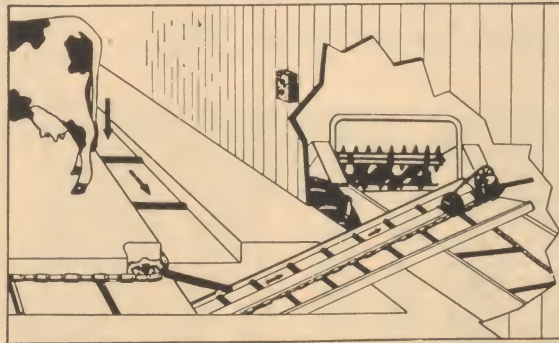
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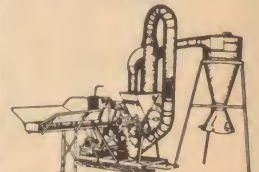
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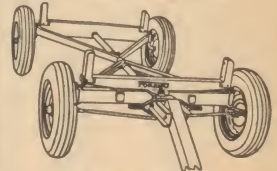
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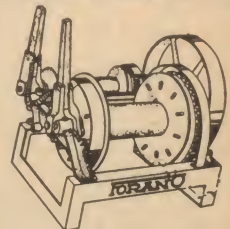
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# Going to Grass

by N. Nikolaiczuk

**C**HICKENS usually get reasonably good care during brooding season. But when the summer comes around people are inclined to turn the growing birds outside to shift for themselves, and let nature take its course. This may be an easy system, but it's expensive. It produces small, unthrifty, slow-maturing pullets that lack the vigour and vitality necessary for heavy egg production in the fall and winter.

Summer management is just as important in a successful poultry enterprise as the proper hatching and brooding of chicks. The essentials are simple and few in number — feed environment and proper rate of development. Let's examine these points separately.

First, feed . . . It's a simple business to pour growing mash and grain out of bags into self-feeding hoppers. But these feeds are costly, and when they're all the birds get they represent over half the cash outlay in rearing pullets to maturity. To make more from the birds it's necessary to cut down these costs . . . and there's an effective answer in good grass range.

Birds will graze a lot more on leafy, juicy pasture than most people realize. Experiments at Macdonald College show that a growing bird will use from 100 to

**There's something very attractive about a flock of pullets on range — and the pullets like it, too. Good pasture cuts costs and improves birds' health and ability to produce eggs.**

150 pounds of green forage during the period from July to October. From a nutritional viewpoint this home-grown feed contains high quality protein, an abundance of vitamin A, and a particularly rich supply of riboflavin and other B vitamins. With this nutritional backing, birds on good pasture can safely be put on a relatively inexpensive growing mash.

Another point . . . a liberal supply of pasture gives the birds more of the protein, Vitamin A and the B group of Vitamins than they need at the time; so it enables them to build up large reserves, which they can draw on later. This obviously safeguards health and productivity.

Because good grass range is so high in food value it's possible to raise the birds on considerably less dry feed. Studies at Cornell University in New York State show that growing birds will use 20% less dry feed when

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grazing is encouraged by restricting the dry feed. The restriction is managed by closing mash and grain hoppers till noon, giving a mash only in the afternoon and a 20 minute period of grain feeding in the evening. This program does not lessen the body weight of pullets in the fall, their sexual maturity nor the subsequent egg production or death rate.

**For Poultry Alone**

Poultry can make use of any permanent pasture; but it's best to sow perennial grasses and legumes for use by poultry alone. A mixture including Brome grass, Kentucky blue grass and alfalfa is recommended by the Quebec Pasture Committee in Circular No. 119 of the Quebec Department of Agriculture. The addition of one pound of Ladino clover to such a mixture increases the tastiness and juiciness of the forage. To prevent the grass making excessive growth or going to seed it's wise to clip the pasture occasionally.

Now let's turn to environment. In spite of the usefulness of green forage, the birds should have ample hopper space. Two five-to-six-foot sheltered hoppers, one for mash and one for grain, are needed for each 100 birds. This is particularly important under a restricted feeding program, where the pullets rush to the feeders when they are opened. Otherwise weak and timid birds are crowded away from the feed, and won't develop properly.

Shade and shelter must be provided, too. Sometimes range shelters are used to serve both purposes — but they don't always do it very effectively. Hot, rubber-roofed shelters aren't very comfortable in the heat of mid-day. A better solution is found in hedge rows, shrubbery, trees, or plantings of corn or sunflowers in rows.

Hygiene and sanitation are needed for the development of a healthy flock. A dense stand of grass covering the ground prevents direct contact with the earth, and so controls soil-borne diseases. The value of grass cover in the control of disease is further increased by periodic shifting of range shelters and feeding equipment to areas that have not been heavily grazed. Shelters and hoppers



Grass cuts down feed costs for these pullets.

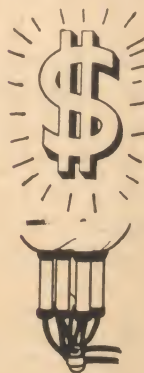
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should be moved before the birds have worn bare spots around them.

In organizing a permanent range it's wise to graze a certain paddock once every three years. This gives the grass a good chance to re-establish itself, allows the bare spots to grow out, and holds down contamination of the soil.

Another disease hazard is found in "puddling," and wet spots around the water founts and troughs. Birds congregate at these spots, so they may become bad focal points for infection. This danger may be overcome by putting founts and troughs on a bed of cinders or gravel, or on a wire screen platform.

Now we arrive at the proper rate of development. Even with grass range as a supplement to dry feed, and the numerous precautions meant to safeguard health and provide comfort during the summer, it's necessary to observe the birds from day to day and from week to week.

The general criterion of proper development is the uniformity of the birds. Throughout the growing period the odd bird will always become pale and unthrifty, or develop some abnormal condition of the crop, or else get hurt. These birds are a poor risk to carry along till fall, and should be culled, as soon as they're noticed. A regular culling routine will add greatly to the uniform appearance of the flock by eliminating the birds that have had setbacks.

### Controlling Maturity

The real measure of success in the management of growing pullets is the ability to control how early they start laying. A common fault lies in bringing pullets into production before they have reached the proper body size. This usually results in a long period of pullet-sized eggs, followed by a slump in production during the late fall and early winter—right at a time when eggs are usually high in price.

Leghorn pullets should mature at five and one-half to six months; while those of heavier breeds—Barred Plymouth Rock, New Hampshire and their crosses—should not start to lay before they are six to six and one-half months of age. The guide to proper time for pullets to start to lay is their body weight; they should be heavy and plump. But often they are still thin and light when sexual maturity appears. Sexual maturity is shown by a reddening of the face, comb and wattles, and a substantial enlargement of both comb and wattles. These signs should be carefully watched for after pullets have passed their fourth month. If they begin to appear too early an effort should be made to hold back the inclination to lay.

Pullets may be held back from laying by greatly reducing the consumption of dry mash, allowing mash feeding for only an hour a day, or even keeping the mash



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hoppers closed all together. At the same time they should be encouraged to eat more scratch grain by leaving the hoppers open all day. If the pullets continue to show signs of lay, the amount of heavy whole oats in the scratch feed should be increased by say 20 per cent by weight. Through these adjustments in feeding it is possible to hold the pullets back from laying until they have made enough body growth.

This type of range management is almost essential for the proper rearing of pullets hatched in February and March. Later pullets, hatched in May and June, often need different treatment. They may require some forcing to speed up their maturity; this calls for a reversal of the feeding procedure — increasing the amount of growing mash and reducing the scratch grain. But in both cases the key to the proper procedure is the size and development of the pullets.

Where the pullets have started to lay there is little that can be done to hold them back. But open hoppers of scratch grain will help in maintaining their body weight. If the birds are big and heavy enough when they start to lay they are much more likely to be steady, profitable, egg producers.

## Value of Varieties

### Shown by Chemistry

Chemistry is stepping into the picture more and more as the decisive agent in establishing the real nutrition values in farm products and their effects on animals, man included.

This fact has been demonstrated recently in the Canada Department of Agriculture where tests have been made on oats grown in widely separated areas and of different varieties. The results show promise of better guidance for the future in establishing balanced diets for farm animals — and porridge lovers.

Popular conception of a good variety of oat is usually one with good yields, high weight per bushel and thin hulls. Such a variety may have a good feeding value, but not necessarily. Chemical analysis gives a much better idea of protein and fat content, for instance. Results of such analyses at the Chemistry Division of the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, are very striking.

Oat varieties varied from 14 to 17 per cent in protein — Victory gave 15.45 and Cartier 17.15 per cent. This means that 111 pounds of Victory would be required to equal the protein of 100 pounds of Cartier. Some varieties contained twice as much fat as others — Roxton, 5.48 and Exeter, 2.70 per cent, that is the same amount of fat in 100 pounds of Roxton as in 203 pounds of Exeter.

The varieties used for these tests were grown at Agassiz, B.C.; Scott, Sask.; Winnipeg, Man., and Ottawa. The average protein content of all varieties tested was lowest at Agassiz and highest at Winnipeg and Scott. The fat content was higher in the Scott test than at any other point.



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## Big Losses from Late Cutting

As 75% of the feeding value of hay is in the leafy portions, hay that is high in leaf is worth considerably more than that high in stem. Stems increase so rapidly with maturity of a hay that a few days' delay in cutting may mean a large loss in feed value. This is illustrated in data from experiments at Macdonald College, which show the proportions by weight of leaves and stems in red clover hay, according to the stage of maturity when cut.

Stage of Maturity When Cut	Days Between Stages	% Leaves and Fine Stems	% Main Stem
Pre-budding	—	75	25
Budding	5	51	49
Early bloom	11	34	65
Full bloom	10	30	70
Heads brown	18	25	75

In the eleven days from the time the heads were forming until the early bloom stage there was a 45% decline in the proportion of leafy material. And when cutting was delayed for 2½ weeks after the heads were forming the proportion of leaves and fine stems dropped to one-third as much. That was a serious loss.

### Big Gain in Clover Yields

Clover hay yields have increased as much as 73 percent as a result of applying two tons of ground limestone per acre, at the Dominion Experimental Station, Fredericton, N.B.

"JOE BEAVER"

By Ed Nofziger



Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture

"In a way this isn't a tree planting project, it's a water saving project."

## AGRICULTURE - SCIENCE - COMMERCE

Agricultural production increased by 40% during the past decade. This is due in large measure to hard work on the farms, scientific application, soil conservation, good banking service and other factors characteristic of this progressive industry.

To-day modern agriculture and animal husbandry are becoming increasingly scientific in their practice and outlook — represent an investment of over \$700 million in implements and equipment, a large part of which were financed at one stage or another by Bank loans.

The Canadian Bank of Commerce stands ready, now as in the past, to consider the legitimate requirements of every Canadian farmer.



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## THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE



## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

*Activities, Plans and Policies of the Quebec  
Department of Agriculture*

### New Income for Colonists

Colonist-farmers in the counties of Abitibi and Temiscamingue have just realized, through courses given at the Agricultural School at Abitibi by the Department of Agriculture, that they have an immense local market at their doors for poultry products. A million dozen eggs, and half a million pounds of poultry meat are required every year for consumers in this area, and at present practically all this huge supply must be bought elsewhere.

Poultry raising in this part of the province would seem to be the answer to the colonist who wants a cash crop on which he can capitalize in a short time and without an undue outlay to get started. He can be cashing in on his poultry operations while the rest of his farm is being readied for other crops.

Realising these things, the Department held a series of short courses on poultry raising at which some thirty young farmers were introduced to modern methods of poultry production. They were shown the whole operation step by step — how to raise the chicks, how to select the best layers, how to feed, how to keep the premises clean and free from disease, how to sell the product and how to organize candling and grading stations. The latter points are particularly important, since compulsory grading and candling are to be required in this district. The organization of co-operative killing plants was also studied and discussed.

The Department has made its contribution to organizing poultry raising on a broad basis in this area by supplying instructors for these courses, by appointing a permanent poultry instructor for Abitibi East and Abitibi West, and by making a grant to the co-operative hatchery at Amos to enable it to increase its capacity.

### Department Offers Study Bursaries

The Department of Agriculture is determined to have only the best qualified men in key positions on its staff. This means well trained men, and the Department helps selected candidates to secure this training by making it possible for graduates of agricultural colleges to go on for graduate work in the lines for which they show special aptitude. This year, 18 such scholarships have been offered, and the winners are selected after they have taken special examinations prepared for this purpose.

The Quebec Research Council has drawn up a list of 11 specialized branches of agriculture for which trained

men are required. These are dairying, animal husbandry, soil technology, entomology, rural engineering, forage crops, horticulture, food chemistry, cold storage, rural economics, plant pathology. The winning candidates may enter a college in Quebec, or go to some American University, according to where he will get the best training in the subject of his choice.

Agricultural science today demands more and more well trained specialists each year. In taking this positive action to see that these trained men are available in this province, the Department of Agriculture is to be congratulated. This is the first time that such a scheme has been attempted, and it cannot but have good results.

### Plant Protection Society Meets

The Quebec Society for the Protection of Plants held its annual meeting last month at the University of Montreal. Results of control work in combatting disease and insect damage during the past year were discussed, and a number of papers, of interests mainly to the scientist, were presented.

The Society is composed of plant pathologists, botanists and entomologists, all busily engaged, either in provincial or federal Departments of Agriculture, or at some agricultural college, in studying how to devise better means of protecting crops against the attacks of insects and diseases. While these men work year after year without much personal honour, except among other scientists, the results of their discoveries are reflected in the new and improved methods of plant protection we now take more or less for granted.

J.B. Maltais, entomologist for the federal government at St. Johns, P. Q., was elected president for the present year, and Prof. F. O. Morrison of Macdonald College was elected vice-president. The two secretaries will again be Messrs. Richard Cayouette and Andre Doyle. Directors elected were I. I. Connors, who was president last year, A. Wilkes, Leo Raynault, Jos. Duncan, A. Beaulieu, M. Munroe and L. Daviault.

Dr. Georges Maheux, president of the Agricultural Research Council, and Dr. L. Daviault will represent the Society at the Royal Society of Canada, and Dr. Rene Lachance will be its delegate to the Canadian Entomological Society.

## Agricultural Merit In District One

Plans for the annual Agricultural Merit contest are already underway, and the competition this year will be held in the thirteen counties around Montreal: those of Argenteuil, Beauharnois, Chateauguay, Two Mountains, Huntingdon, Jacques Cartier, Laprairie, Napierville, l'Assomption, Laval, Soulanges, Terrebonne and Vaudeuil.

The Agricultural Merit competition begins its 60th year this season, and it is interesting to note that the contest started in these same counties in 1890. The first Gold Medal winner was Charles Champagne who had a farm at St. Eustache. Although he was 82 years old when he entered the contest, he scored 91.9% to become the first Commander of the Order of Agricultural Merit.

Five years ago, the last time the contest was held in District 1, there were four entrants for the gold medal, which was finally won by Leon Sedillot of St. Remi, with a score of 90.9%. For the silver medal there were 29 entries, and the top scorer in this division was Ernest Roy of Riviere des Prairies. The Agricultural School of St. Remi won the gold medal in the non-professional class.

The regulations of the contest provide that any farmer who is a member of an agricultural society is eligible to compete in the contest, provided he has worked his farm for at least five consecutive years, either as owner, manager, or lessor. Even if he does not belong to an agricultural society, he may still compete if he makes a deposit of \$5.00 with his application.

## Good Crops Start With Good Seed

Last year the Department of Agriculture began a survey to find out just what kind of seed oats are being used by some of our farmers; this programme will be continued again this year.

Something like 1000 samples of seed oats will be taken from the seed used by farmers in the counties of Bellechasse, Montmagny, l'Islet, Kamouraska and Riviere du Loup. These samples will be analyzed in the provincial seed laboratory, and every farmer whose seed was tested will receive a report on its quality; reports which, in some cases, may prove very surprising.

This is all part of the Department's general campaign to improve the quality of crops in Quebec by starting at the most important point — the quality of the seed used. The analysis will give information on trueness of variety, germinating power, quantity of weed seed included, etc.

## A Honey King For Quebec?

Canada has its wheat king: Quebec will soon have its honey king and its maple syrup king.

At the suggestion of the Director of the Horticulture Service of the Department of Agriculture, the Quebec Fair will add a new class in the exhibits of honey and of maple syrup, which will be called "Provincial Grand

Championship." This class will be restricted to exhibitors who have won first prizes at regional exhibitions. Prizes of \$20, \$15 and \$10 will be provided in each contest to the three best exhibits, and the winner in each section will be given a cup and proclaimed "Honey king" and "Maple syrup king."

Two objectives are at the back of this. It will serve to advertise these products, and it will help to develop a uniform system of packing. The Department of Agriculture will supply uniform, attractive containers to the exhibitors without charge.

## Census Figures Will Be Useful

It may be just an extra chore to fill out the questionnaire forms that have been distributed by the Department of Agriculture, but they are most useful sources of information to a variety of organizations. The forms were prepared by the Agricultural Division of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and the Provincial Department of Industry and Commerce.

The answers put down on the forms by Quebec farmers will serve as a guide in preparing estimates of acreages to be sown in 1950, and will give a count of livestock on farms as at the first of June of this year. Similar information is being collected in each of the nine other provinces.

The value of these items of information depends on the care with which the questions are answered by each farmer. To get a true over-all picture requires a large number of replies, from all sorts of farms.

Figures obtained from these 1950 questionnaires will be used to help in formulating policies by governments, agricultural organizations, and by industry. International organizations such as FAO count on the Bureau of Statistics for the latest information on Canadian agriculture. Therefore, it is in everyone's interest to fill these forms out carefully, even though they do arrive at a busy time. All information is held in strict confidence, and is not used by the income tax division.

## First Credit Union in English-Speaking Rural Quebec

Incorporation papers for the first credit union to be established by English-speaking farmers in this province were signed in Pontiac County on May 2nd. Registered under the Quebec Syndicates Act, the new society hopes to commence business by the middle of June.

Present at the recent meeting were R. N. Elliott, CUNA National Director for Quebec, Floyd Griesbach, new Farm Forum National Secretary, and Jim Davidson, Farm Forum Secretary for the province. Wendell Wilson is temporary chairman of the new credit union.

The farmers and townfolk of the district two years ago formed the Pontiac County Medical Services Co-operative. A successful experience with their health service plan encouraged them to establish their own savings and credit facilities.



## Strippings

by Gordon W. Geddes

As a great many people expected when it was so warm in January, the spring has been very cold. But we didn't really expect that Ivan would freeze his ears coming over for chores on the tenth of May. He said it was the first time he ever froze them in May and I told him I hoped it was the last time for this May at least. However the thermometer went just as low last night only we didn't have the terrific wind. Many of those who are short of hay have turned stock into the pastures before there was any grass or warmth either. But one cannot blame them for there seems to be no connection between the price of hay and grain and of the products obtained by feeding them. When butterfat was a third higher than it is now feed was cheaper. Present offers for dairy cows are away down as well.

We are feeding very little hay now ourselves, Silage goes to the cows (grass silage by the way) twice a day and a little straw and molasses once a day. The horses get straw once a day and just the calves get hay altogether. The horses look better than when we started to feed straw, perhaps because of the tonic effect of the molasses used in it. We are feeding a little of that to the hogs as well and find that they seem healthier. Its use means less cases of milk fever as well and it doesn't take many cases of that to pay for a barrel of molasses.

But we seem quite unable to stop our calves from chewing wood. Either the commercial cobalt salt doesn't have enough cobalt in it or else there is another deficiency. The season when we mixed cobalt and fed it direct to the calves, it seemed to work for us and some of the neighbours. But it was a nuisance to use and we changed to the commercial salt when it came out. This winter we have used irradiated yeast as well to supply vitamin D for proper assimilation of minerals. In spite of everything the calves have been chewing wood badly. Two of them have eaten through an eight-inch board

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three times in three weeks. Lately we have given them cobalt in addition to that in the salt and it seems to have helped some.

We got a splendid catch with the Dollard clover we had from Macdonald College last year. Apparently it had a poor chance as it was a very dry year and the Roxton oats seeded with it made such a terrific growth. The clover must have been terribly shaded during the summer while the oats lodged very badly before they were cut. According to a recent theory the presence of straw on the field through the winter is supposed to be hard on the clover. On that field there was lots of it due to the lodging. In spite of all this we have the best catch of clover we have had for some time. Apparently we should not credit it to the facts that it was Dollard clover as the check strip of local seed is also good. The fly in that particular batch of ointment is that this field is only a small part of our new seeding. The main field which apparently had a better chance as the grain was shorter and stood up well, has some very poor spots in it. It must be the unexplained reason why farmers who break all the rules sometimes get good results.

But breaking the rule that what is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander isn't going to get good results in the long run. If we have to compete with low priced imported vegetable oils with our dairy butter, we have

every right to buy cheap Japanese shirts or similar products. If Japanese shirts are unfair competition for Canadian producers so is imported vegetable oil. It is very doubtful if Canadian shirts will be sold to the producers of the vegetable oil. If we can't sell our butter, certainly our shirts will be even more ragged in the future than they have in the past if we have to pay present prices for them. And that will mean no shirts at all for we have worn them as long as they would hang together for some time. Nor will shirts be the only thing farmers will have to do without. The farmers will be like the people of Britain. If they cannot sell, they cannot buy.

The proposal to raise a fund to advertise dairy produce by a voluntary levy of one cent per pound on all butterfat produced during the month of June might well be a step in the right direction. If the producers would all get behind the scheme it would raise quite a sum. The power of advertising is immense. Look at the money spent in advertising soap products. It has completely changed the buying of cleaning products in Canada. And it is not because they are more economical as the amount spent on such products in the last few years has increased by leaps and bounds. We do not have to make a big increase in consumption of butter as the surplus this spring represented only two lbs. per person in Canada.

This would be a small amount in a year but the very fact that such a small decrease in consumption can be so troublesome shows all the more the danger in the large scale use of margarine. Even the amount used by the silly farmers who think they are economizing through its use can well be disastrous. So let us advertise our produce both by using it ourselves and by a cash contribution towards the advertising fund.

### Canada Sales Under Marshall Plan

Authorizations for purchase of Canadian products under the Marshall Plan for the year 1948 and 1949 totalled \$1,035 millions, out of a total authorization for all countries of \$7,858 millions.

Authorizations for bread grains, flour, etc., from Canada totalled \$426,657,000, for coarse grains \$16,925,000, for fats and oils \$4,299,000, for livestock and animal products \$81,941,000. Of the latter \$46,800,000 for bacon, \$19,950,000 for other meats, \$10,000,000 for cheese, \$13,488,000 for fish and products.

### British Increasing Farm Production

British agriculture aims at higher production of food products during the coming years, according to a recent statement by the General Secretary of the British Farmers' Union. The statement says:

"Of the food consumed in the United Kingdom it is expected that approximately 40 percent will be produced at home during the 1950-51 financial year, leaving 60 percent to be imported. The target figure for the following year is 50 percent of home-produced food."

### Quads at Ste. Croix

Mr. Alphonse Leclerc, a farmer at Ste. Croix, is the proud possessor of quadruplet calves, born safely last March. The calves, two of each sex, weighed 33, 30, 25 and 19 pounds at birth, and at two weeks weighed 45, 42, 37 and 30 pounds.

According to Dr. Venzke, of the staff of the Veterinary College of Ohio,

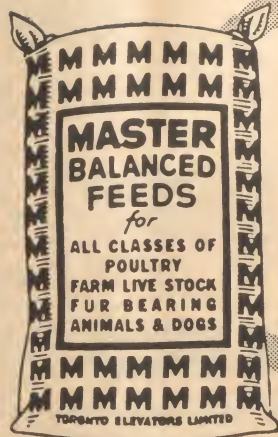
the chances of twin births in cattle are 1 in 50 or 60; of triplets, 1 in 3300 births. No figures are given for quadruplet births, which are so rare that no statistics apparently are available.

Mr. Leclerc tells us that the mother of the calves, a grade Ayshire, is an 800 pound cow. It is entirely likely that the two heifer calves will be sterile, since the female twin usually is. The two bull calves will not be of particular value either, since they will not be of the type that should be used as sires. This multiple birth is, however, an interesting event even though the calves themselves may not be particularly valuable in the herd.

At a recent meeting of the Hog Breeders' Association of Ontario, it was brought out in a report on grading that hogs from Quebec farms, destined for export, graded well. Out of a total of 628,823 hogs shipped by Quebec farmers, 29.2% went into the "A" grade, and 44.9% into B1. This is an improvement over last year, and only the Maritimes (which ship something like 20% as many as Quebec) showed improvements besides Quebec.

The report also pointed out that many of the B1 carcasses would have made the A grade had they not been too heavy. This emphasizes, once again, the importance of shipping hogs at about 215 pounds live weight.

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## Getting Around Bad Haying Weather

When it rains every second or third day during the haying season farmers are apt to get depressed. And small wonder; when the year's operations depend on getting in a hay crop, it's no fun watching that hay gradually turn into leached straw.

Wet weather is undoubtedly one of the greatest hazards in a life that has many varieties to test even the most patient. But like a lot of the other hazards, some people have found a way of getting around it.

Even in Yarmouth county, Nova Scotia — a county renowned as Canada's wettest — some farmers are now reasonably sure of their winter feed supply. They've given up the battle of trying to cure hay against odds that are often unbeatable, and they're putting it up as ensilage. That way, they can take it in almost any time they can cut it. In fact J. E. Shuh, assistant field husbandman in Nova Scotia, says it's best when put up with about 70 percent moisture content. However, when it's very wet the experts agree that a preservative such as molasses should be used to help it cure properly.

Mr. Shuh has a lot of arguments in favour of grass silage — most of which apply anywhere in this country. In the first place, grass is far better for the land than corn, and it's a much safer crop. It will produce 10 to 12 tons per acre of ensilage that contains from 14 to 16 percent protein. This makes it possible to cut down on grain feeding without taking any loss in gains or at the pail. In addition, the grass can be taken off before the regular haying season, so that it evens out labour requirements.

Another big point is that some of the grass may be put up as silage during the flush pasture season in mid-June, when otherwise most of it would be wasted. If needed this first take of silage may be used to supplement dry summer pasture, so that milk production won't fall off, and the silo may be refilled with corn or grass later in the season.



J. E. Shuh shows the pit silo at Truro to Prof. L. H. Hamilton of Macdonald College.

One of the usual arguments against grass silage is that many farmers have no silos and that they are costly to build. But the Nova Scotia Agricultural College at Truro got around this showing the possibilities of a pit silo. The college made one 50 feet long, six feet deep, and sloping from 8½ feet wide at the bottom to 11 feet at the top. Capable of holding about 60 tons of grass silage, this pit cost less than \$100 to construct.

What the college did was to dig out a hole in a hillside with a bulldozer, and side it up with planks for 18 inches to hold back loose dirt. Then heavy building paper was used to line the remainder of the pit. The ensilage was put in, and packed by running a tractor back and forth on it. Once filled, it was sealed with building paper on top, and topped with 18 inches of long hay to add weight so that the top silage would cure.

The end of the silo away from the hill was closed in such a way that it could be opened up in sections, board by board. This kept too much silage from being exposed at one time, so there was little spoilage.

Almost any crop — grasses, legumes, cereals or even weeds — can be made into good ensilage, provided it is green enough when put up. And one other point about weeds — since ensilage is taken off before they've time to ripen, this system helps to clean up fields.

With pit silos offering a cheap means of storing feed, only one real argument against grass silage seems to remain. Green grass is a heavy crop to handle, and special equipment is required. However, when the choice is between putting up nutritious feed which will make it unnecessary to use much grain or commercial supplement, or using weathered hay and buying a lot of other feed, the choice should not be too difficult.

## Even Weed Killers Present Problems

Weeding and hoeing are chores that most gardeners dislike. And the chances are that a good many home gardeners will be considering the "easiest way" to rid themselves of these chores, particularly since they have been reading of the marvels of chemical weed killing that have been developed in the last few years.

In commenting upon this matter, Dr. A. E. Roland, Botanist, Nova Scotia Agricultural College, points out that chemical weed control is going to be helpful to many gardeners. However, he cautions, they must not forget that chemical weed killers must be used carefully according to directions, or the results may not be at all to the gardener's liking.

First of all, Dr. Roland points out, gardeners must use the correct chemical on the crops being grown — onions, beets, carrots, and so on. Then, too, the spray must be prevented from drifting over to other crops which are very susceptible to spray injury.



## THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES SECTION

*Devoted to the activities of the Quebec Institutes  
and to matters of interest to them*

### Founder of Women's Institutes Honoured

Quoting the parable of the mustard seed to illustrate the rapid growth and beneficial projects of the Women's Institutes, the Hon. Louis St. Laurent, Prime Minister of Canada, paid eloquent tribute to that organization at a simple but moving ceremony held in the Chateau Laurier, Ottawa, May 8, when the portrait of Mrs. Adelaide Hoodless, founder of the W.I., was unveiled and presented to the National Archives. Speaking of the need which it fills and its efforts to promote unity he said, "If that sense of brotherhood could be made true throughout all nations of the world there would be no need of Atlantic pacts or huge appropriations to defense."

Following a stirring tribute to Mrs. Hoodless—a woman with vision—given by Mrs. J. R. Fitcher, President Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario, St. Thomas, the portrait was unveiled by Mrs. Raymond Sayre, Ackworth, Iowa, President Associated Country Women of the World. Secretary of State, Hon. G. Bradley, accepted the portrait on behalf of the Dominion Archives and assured his listeners that this portrait of a great Canadian lady would receive an honoured place in the archives of the nation.

Climaxing the ceremony was the address by Mrs. Sayre, whose charming and gracious personality, coupled with a forceful message, held the close attention of her audience. "The most important thing any nation can do is the improvement of its homes," she stated, and went on to say it was for that reason Mrs. Hoodless, the woman who gave such impetus to this idea, was being honoured today. Speaking of the expansion of that thought throughout the world, Mrs. Sayre gave the following concise summary of the meaning of A.C.W.W.—the Associated Country Women of the World. "'A' stands for fellowship," she said, "among six million women in 25 countries, learning to know each other better; 'C' for Countrywomen—dedicated to the proposition of improving the lives and raising the standard of country living everywhere; 'W' for World—the first time in the history of the world that we, the countrywomen, have been articulate." In all countries of the world but one, Mrs. Sayre continued, women outnumber the men. That makes them important; politically, as they control the vote; in the home, where they train the children; and as teachers, where women again predominate. "We have the power," she said, "let us use it rightly." Mrs. Sayre went on to say first



Mrs. Adelaide Hoodless, founder of the Women's Institute. It was this picture, familiar to all Institute members, that was copied by Miss Long for the portrait presented to the Dominion Archives.

that, we must realize science has made of the world one neighbourhood; second, we must make the world one brotherhood and the real responsibility for this rests with those countries with a true democracy; third, we must be willing to assume our individual responsibility to the best of our ability. "It is not so important," she concluded, "whether we look to the right or to the left as it is we look above for our strength." Mrs. Sayre, who was introduced by Mrs. Fitcher, was thanked by Mrs. L. Gibson, Kemptville, vice-president.

Among others on the platform were Miss Marion Long, O.S.A., R.C.A., Toronto, the artist who painted the portrait. She was introduced by Miss Anna Lewis, superintendent of the W.I. Toronto, and spoke briefly on her pleasure in making this portrait of a great and beautiful lady.

Prayer by Rev. J. Logan-Veneta, Ottawa, followed by the Lord's Prayer sung with deep feeling and reverence by Douglas Halpenny, Lanark, and two beautiful vocal solos, Jerusalem and Kerry Dance, by Mrs. James Purvis, Kemptville, were other features of this memorable occasion.

## The Month With The W.I.

Eighteen counties reported for April, but no pictures arrived! Surely the summer sunshine will tempt our members to carry their cameras to all meetings and W.I. "doings."

**Argenteuil:** Brownsburg invited Mr. G. S. Giles of Lachute to be the guest speaker at their meeting. \$5 was donated to the Boy Scouts, and the same amount to the Girl Guides. Flannelette blankets and \$10 worth of kitchen utensils were given local fire sufferers. In addition to the regular overseas parcel, a special one was sent to a W.I. branch in England celebrating their Jubilee anniversary. Frontier held a discussion on W.I. publicity in the newspapers, and a word-making contest was much enjoyed. Lachute bought new books for the library, and had more donated. Mrs. S. Milnes showed beautifully coloured films at the meeting, and three new members joined. Morin Heights members discussed work for the fair, and made paper roses for the scouts to sell on St. George's Day. A collection of used clothing was made for the Salvation Army. Pioneer branch held a pressure cooker demonstration and a kitchen shower for fire victims. A most interesting feature of the Upper-Lachute East End meeting was a talk and demonstration of transplanting seedlings. This was given by Mr. A. Ogilvie.

**Beauharnois:** Nitro branch reports canvassing for the Red Cross, and the total was most satisfactory. They also assisted in collecting for the Valleyfield Hospital Fund. A Cribbage Party was held to raise funds for the branch and they are using the Huntingdon Gleaner for vigorous publicity. The meeting featured a demonstration of hooked, braided and string rugs. We welcome the first publicity from the Nitro No. 2 branch, which was recently organized. There were ten members present and a medical quiz was the roll call. This branch is very anxious to help "New Canadians" and proposed holding a special meeting to "learn how." (The enthusiasm for W.I. work in this district is very heartening.)

**Bonaventure:** Black Cape prepared their programme for the year and a paper on Canadian Citizenship was given by Mrs. R. Brake. This was later used over CHNC. Marcil appointed the hostesses for the year and discussed plans for the County Convention. Port Daniel used the special ceremony for the installation of officers and made donations to the Red Cross and Cancer Fund. Mrs. W. Lawrence contributed a paper on Denmark for broadcast over CKNB. Restigouche sent sunshine baskets to three elderly members of the community who had been very ill. \$10 was donated to the Watt Memorial and \$5 each to the Red Cross and Cancer Fund. Shigawake members featured "Housecleaning Hints," and voted \$10 to the Red Cross.

**Brome:** Abercorn reports "a small attendance owing to the busy sugar season." It was decided to hold a

supper to raise funds. Austin donated \$10 to the Red Cross and report a satisfactory bank balance for the branch. South Bolton discussed plans for the coming Annual County Meeting to be held there in May. At Sutton it was decided to order the plaque for the Town Clock. All arrangements were made to hold a food sale.

**Chat-Huntingdon:** Aubrey-Riverfield made plans to "hostess" the County Meeting, May 5. Mrs. A. McFarlane gave a most interesting talk on her experiences as a teacher; and a poem was given. Dundee featured an exhibit of handmade clothing and dainty crochet work. Mrs. Platt displayed a large collection of quilt blocks, many of them being very old. Hemmingford also enjoyed a showing of handwork, but the main event was the presentation of a gift to Mrs. G. S. Walsh, a much-loved and valued member who is departing to live in Florida. Howick used the new ceremony to install their officers, and made plans for the school Fair. A parcel was sent overseas. Huntingdon enjoyed a most instructive demonstration on the use of attachments on their sewing machines. Members modelled aprons they had made, and Mrs. Bruce won the prize for the apron judged the prettiest. It was decided to send cards to shut-ins. Ormstown had a large attendance to hear Mr. E. Sault's address on the Textile Industry. Of special interest was the new "Glass cloth," which though extremely expensive to produce, is absolutely fire-proof. Prizes were to be given the schools for the French pupil making most progress in English, and the English pupil excelling in French.

**Compton:** Brookbury donated \$3 to the Cancer Fund and held a shower for a bride. Bury appointed delegates for the Short Course, the County and Provincial Conventions. Three new members joined the branch. Canterbury completed the yearly programme and sent usual parcels overseas. A gift of food was sent to a needy family. East Angus donated \$5 to the Red Cross. Cocoa is being provided for the school children. At Scotstown Mrs. J. B. Scott was asked to dress a doll to be exhibited at the Cookshire Fair. \$10 was voted for the Cancer Fund and a gift of money was sent to a needy member.



Cookshire W.I. had a class in leather work.

**Gaspé:** Our Convenor in Gaspé reports very hard weather conditions during the past winter and spring. Heavy rains, bridges washed out, and general discomfort. However, we all take heart when good weather arrives, and Wakeham rollcall for the April meeting was "Ways to Improve the Garden." There was much discussion of the year's work and committees were appointed. At L'Anse aux Cousins the rollcall was "Pay double the size of your shoe," rather novel and fun-provoking.

**Gatineau:** Aylmer East branch was invited to meet at one of the largest bakeries in Ottawa where they were conducted on a tour of the plant and served afternoon tea. A fine report of last year's delegate to the Short Course was given. Mrs. Radmore gave a talk on teachers, with a "flash-back" to 1880, and the salaries paid at that time. Eardley made two quilts for fire victims and donated a blanket as well. An amusing hat-trimming contest was held, with prizes "for the best and worst!" Kazabazua assisted three families who had lost their homes by fire, with blankets, clothing and shoes. Wakefield reports \$583.29 raised for general purposes during the year, plus \$115 for the School Lunch Fund. The April meeting featured Household Hints, and remarks on "Topics from a Hat." Wright is very active in their campaign for a cottage hospital in the County. Three members gave an excellent demonstration on rug-making.

**Jacques-Cartier:** Ste. Annes enjoyed a guest speaker, Mr. M. Allen, who spoke on "Colour in the Home", and two films stressing this theme were shown. \$35 was voted for monthly overseas parcels and a \$10 donation was given to the local Youth Club.

**Megantic:** Inverness reports the purchase of a projector for the High School. At the meeting, a vote of thanks was tendered all the donors who helped to make this possible. Plans were made for the Annual County Meeting and a demonstration on use of a Pressure cooker was much enjoyed. The monthly parcel was sent overseas.

**Missisquoi:** All branches in this county sent cotton for the Cancer Society. St. Armand members enjoyed a most informative paper on care of the African violet, entitled "Love them and leave them." Stanbridge East reports a programme drawn up for the coming year while two papers "Don't be too busy to live" and "Handicrafts, Ancient and Modern," were much appreciated. Dunham voted money for the Red Cross, Cancer Society and the local school prizes. Cowansville held a quiz on Citizenship and are very busy with plans for the School Fair, and a rug-making course they hope to have later in the year. Fordyce voted money for the School Fair prizes, the school bursary fund and the Red Cross. A silk cushion made by two members was used to raise funds.

**Pontiac:** Bristol Busy Bees planned refreshments for the Annual County Convention. Two quilts were com-

pleted, and it was decided to ask for the course on rug-making. Clarendon welcomed a new member and donated \$5 to the Red Cross. Fort Coulonge members are also planning on the rug-making course, and their rollcall was "Time savers for housewives." They report three new members. Shawville enjoyed an address on Flower Culture, and interesting slides on Florida were shown. Various donations amounting to more than \$100 were voted at this meeting for worthy causes. At Quyon Mayor S. W. MacKechnie spoke on the benefits of the County Co-operative Medical Services, and the new Community Hall, soon to be built in Quyon. The Pontiac Community Hospital received a gift of chairs for the doctor's room. At the meeting there was a parade of oldtime costumes.



Quyon chose the ever-popular weaving.

**Richmond:** Cleveland netted \$8.20 at an auction of remnants, and dispatched the overseas parcel. Denison's Mills held a shower for a recent bride and Gore featured a pot holder contest. Melbourne Ridge ordered seeds for the School Fair. Shipton donated \$5 each to the Red Cross and March of Dimes; while a dance was held to raise funds. Spooner Pond bought two dozen chairs for the W.I. and made presentations to the retiring officers. Windsor Mills sent a Sunshine Basket to a member in Hospital, and a parcel overseas. Home made articles were shown with prizes for the winners.

**Rouville:** Abbotsford branch had an attendance of forty to hear a most interesting lecture by Mr. Jas. Dempster of Downham Nursery Co. It was an illustrated address and the speaker dealt with plants, shrubs and landscape gardening. Beautifully coloured slides of a collection of rare roses were shown.

**Shefford:** Granby Hill voted \$10 each to the Polio Fund and Cancer Society. Each member answered the rollcall with an apron she had made. Two boxes of fruit were sent to sick people. South Roxton voted a donation to the Cancer Fund, and the members enjoyed a Pressure cooker demonstration. Warden welcomed three new members, and held a contest "Leaders in Health". It was decided to give prizes to students attaining highest marks in Waterloo High School.

**Sherbrooke:** Ascot branch held a bread baking contest, and report that the printing of Ascot (Tweedsmuir) History is now completed. \$6 was voted for school prizes. Cherry River held a very successful sale of fancy pot holders. Lennoxville sent 25 lbs. of cotton to the Cancer Society as well as a contribution of \$10. Clothing was also collected for Save the Children Society. Milby had a sewing demonstration, and presented Mrs. E. A. Orr and Mrs. W. J. Beattie with Life Membership pins. Orford members had a enjoyable "Sugaring-off Party".

**Stanstead:** Ayer's Cliff planned a supper party to aid the local hockey team. Donations were sent to the Red Cross and Save the Children, with the usual box packed for overseas. Beebe W.I. provided the lunch for Parents' Day at the local school. A very successful weaving course was given by Miss Birch, with 17 members participating. Minton reports a sale of remnants with proceeds for the treasury; and a contest sponsored by the Home Economics Convenor. In North Hatley the smocking course was concluded; and at the meeting an interesting paper on "Perennial Borders" was read. Stanstead North donated \$10 to the Red Cross and \$5 to the March of Dimes. An informative paper on her subject was read by the Welfare and Health Convenor. Way's Mills sent a donation of groceries and fruit to a needy family, and held a "Pink and Blue" shower for a member who was moving away. She was also presented with a lovely quilt.

**Vaudreuil:** Cavagnal reports plans for a bridge at their meeting and five new members were welcomed. Major G. Ommanny gave a most interesting talk on birds and bird life in the district. At the Vaudreuil-Dorion meeting, Mrs. Ardill spoke on the work of the "Christian Homes for Children". \$25 was immediately donated to this worthy cause. Cards and flowers were sent to the sick and a card party, food sale and tea was planned to raise funds.



Beebe had weaving also, and is now carrying on with their own floor loom, which was recently purchased.

## Foot Savers Around The House

by Helen Kirby

Of course, the first real foot-saver for anyone, is a well-fitted pair of shoes. This is specially important for anyone who stands at her work most of the time. High heels and "I've just got to wear these out" shoes, are poor equipment to endure. So let's have suitable and comfortable foot wear, at least.

Chair and stools come next and do save one a lot of fatigue. A stool, the correct height, for use when doing dishes, preparing vegetables and possibly ironing, is a "must." Then a comfortable easy chair in the kitchen when there is a spot of pot-watching to do, or when you pick up your knitting while waiting for the family to come to meals.

Working surfaces, especially in the kitchen, should be of a height suitable for the individual using it most. Good lighting may not rate as a step saver but certainly will contribute to efficiency and lessen eye-strain.

Remember the trip saving possible in using trays or baskets. Both are so useful for many chores. A light weight, metal tray reduces the number of trips from cupboard to table and aids in removal of soiled dishes from meal tables. Put your clean, hot jam or jelly glasses on a tray before filling them and the whole lot may be easily moved at once. An old or discarded picture frame, a piece of plywood or masonite, and a few nails can make either an artistic tea tray or an average one for kitchen use.

The same saving of foot steps can be made by the use of small and larger baskets. A round bushel basket makes an excellent laundry basket, a good storage place for large pieces of sewing and young Johnny or Sue just might be persuaded to pick up their toys if they had a gaily painted one of their own. Smaller baskets for trips up or down stairs, to carry cleaning materials, fresh laundry, bottles and so on, can help a lot also.

And not the least useful is the basket trimmed up a bit with coloured paper, filled with "goodies", or some amusing items, for a sick child or neighbour.

So make your head save your heels and be sure those heels are straight and "comfy".

All services operating under U.E.F.B. are being closed, including CANAID. A letter from that office states: "We would appreciate it very much if you would let your committee or organization know of this decision so that anyone formerly making use of this service will know that they are no longer available. Parcels are still needed in Britain, according to the W.V.S. in London, until war-time rationing is abandoned. For that reason the Personal Parcel project of the Q.W.I. is being continued.



1. Salads that taste just as good as they look were assembled by Prof. Isabel Honey, a member of the Household Science staff. Miss Honey's food demonstrations are always an eagerly anticipated feature of this course.
2. Under the expert instruction of Miss Frances Wren, Handicraft Department of the College, the class in leather work learns to fashion beautiful specimens of this craft. Coin purses, with typical Canadian patterns designed by the members themselves, belts, etc., were completed in time to be taken home and proudly displayed to their branches.
3. The care of the farm flock is almost always the exclusive charge of the woman of the house. Here is the intensely interested group surrounding Prof. W. A. Maw, chairman of the Poultry Department, as he shows them how to prepare fowl for the table in all the various ways it can be served, and answers the bombardment of questions hurled at him by this enthralled audience.
4. The largest class at the course was in rug-making. Miss E. M. Birch, Q.W.I. Handicraft Technician, leads her group of 16 members through the intricacies of developing their own designs and all the details that go into fine workmanship. There should be some fine entries in the rug section of the Tweedsmuir Competitions next year, after this fascinating experience.
5. Here they are, 38 strong—a full quota. Q.W.I. members from 32 branches, representing 16 counties, who attended this year's short course in Leadership Training, gather on the front steps of Macdonald College to have their picture taken.
6. "A dress to take home with you." Miss Madge Guilford, also of the Household Science staff, and her class in sewing. Each member came equipped with a dress length and simple pattern, and was shown how to fit and alter patterns, how to put in various types of fasteners, and details of finishing to give that "not made at home" look.
7. "The most interested class I ever had," says Mr. John Verge, National Film Board Representative, Valleyfield, who taught the class how to operate a projector. By popular request this was added to the course this year and here he is shown surrounded by eager members striving to attain the skill necessary to carry on their own film showings.
8. "How can I tell what kind of material this is?" How do I wash it?" These and many other questions on fabrics, their identification and care, were answered and fully discussed by Miss M. Jenkins, of the Household Science staff.

Above is the pictorial story of the day-time activities of the short course in Leadership Training, sponsored by the Q.W.I. at Macdonald College, May 29 - June 2. In addition a most important aspect of the Institute work was featured at the evening sessions when members discussed the conduct of their meetings, how to prepare minutes,

financial records and reports, and the handling of publicity.

A chance to browse around at the Information Centre, on invitation from Miss Betty Loosley, Librarian, was another treat and many of the women were delighted to discover some exciting books on crafts.



## Office News

### "Women at Work" Pictures

The A.C.W.W. is planning a display of pictures showing women working on the land, at their conference in Copenhagen this coming fall. In the early spring an appeal was issued to all their constituent societies to send in such prints, typical of the activities in the various countries represented in that organization. Q.W.I. members responded and several pictures were received at this office to be used for that purpose. A selection was made, keeping the occupations portrayed as varied as possible, and sent to the A.C.W.W. General Secretary, Mrs. John Bell. Three were left over. One of these was used in last month's issue of the Journal and another one is reproduced this month. In addition you may like to know what was sent to London; following is the list:

Milking time — Mrs. Lloyd Oliver, Lemesurier W.I.  
Gathering the eggs (the same).

In the strawberry patch (the same).

Examining the honey comb for queen cells, Mrs. J. W. Graham, Inverness W.I.

Raking the hay, Miss Iris Nutbrown, Milby W.I.

Feeding the farm flock, Mrs. Aristide Forand, Austin W.I.

Helping haul fence posts, Mrs. Louis MacAuley, Austin W.I.

Driving the Tractor, Mrs. Ruth MacAuley, Austin W.I.

\* \* \*

### W.I. in Britain

A copy of the 33rd annual report of the National Federation of Women's Institutes, England, for the year 1949, has just reached the office, and gives a vivid picture of the achievements of this voluntary association. There are now 7,281 W.I. branches in England, with a total membership of 438,000, an increase in the last two years of 58,000. Good progress is being made in the Channell Isles where Institutes have only been formed since the war and requests are being met to form branches in the Isle of Man.

The report of the work carried on at Denman College is of especial interest. During the year 1,571 students have stayed at the College and visitors from East Africa, Australia, Ceylon, Denmark, Germany, India, Malaya, Natal, New Zealand, Norway, Northern and Southern Rhodesia and Sweden have been welcomed. 37 "A" courses, open to all W.I. members have been held and 28 "B" courses, organized by Sub-Committees for helping those members who are willing to pass on what they learn to other Institutes.

Extensive gardens are connected with the College, which are used at many courses for teaching purposes. These supply the College with fruit and vegetables and

in addition the surplus was marketed, bringing in £1,000.

This report is on file in the office and can be loaned to any member who would like to see it. There is also material on the Peace Garden, mentioned in Mrs. Thomson's letter to county meetings, which will be loaned on request.

## Greetings From Denmark

We, the undersigned Danish organisations, who are jointly making preparations for the 6th Triennial Conference of A.C.W.W., which is to be held in Copenhagen between 9th and 16th September, 1950, send our sincerest good wishes to A.C.W.W. and its member associations and our assurance of our eager anticipation of this event.

Their Majesties, Queen Ingrid and Queen Alexandrine, have agreed to become the Congress Patronesses, and all Danish Authorities and public institutions, whose co-operation has been sought, have shown the greatest friendliness towards the Congress.

Please accept this as an expression from Denmark of our unanimous wish to show our guests how welcome they will be.

De danske Husmoderforeninger;

Johanne Dahlerup-Petersen, Chairman.

De samvirkende danske Husholdningsforeninger;

Ellen Villemoes Andersen, Chairman.

Feallesudvalget for Landboforeningernes

Husholdningsarbejde; Karen Busk, Chairman.

De samvirkende danske Husmandsforeningers

Husholdningsudvalg; Marie Hansen, Chairman



"On the Tractor", time out for a picture.



## THE COLLEGE PAGE

### Our Busy Handicrafters

The Handicrafts Department, one of our busiest, if not the best known to the public at large, has just completed its second regular one-year course, and certificates were earned by eight students, whose picture appears below.

During this course, which begins on the first of October and continues until the end of May, the students do a variety of handicrafts under the supervision of highly skilled instructors. Over the eight month period they fashion articles in metal, wood, and leather. They learn wood carving and whittling; how to print on paper and cloth from linoleum blocks they design and cut themselves; they weave a variety of fabrics to make dress material, table cloths, scarves, belts, and a host of other things. The dress material is usually of plain design, but the patterns woven into some of the other articles show a wide range of artistic talent. Many of the designs come from the student's own imagination; a few are copied.

About half this year's class took the course for their own pleasure, and were not interested in preparing to earn a living through handicrafts. The rest enrolled in the course with the definite purpose of obtaining a position on graduation; and positions are not difficult to obtain. Red Cross hospitals, veterans' hospitals, recreation centres, girls' summer camps, to name but a few organizations, are all anxious to employ trained handicrafts workers as instructors; the work is interesting, challenging, and never monotonous. But what is perhaps more important, these instructors, particularly those who are working with hospital patients, have the knowledge that their work is helping these patients back along the road to recovery; giving them an interest in living that they may have lost; equipping some of the more unfortunate to become self-supporting instead of being a burden on the community.

This Diploma course in Handicrafts is the main occupation of the two members of the staff of the Department — Miss Kae Frew and Miss Frances Wren. But the Department co-operates with other divisions of the College with the greatest good nature; nothing seems to be too much trouble for them. Homemaker students are given twenty hours of instruction each session in weaving, and another twenty hours of leather work. Students in the School for Teachers, through their club projects, take a six hour course in the same two crafts. Students



Staff members and graduating students of the Handicrafts Division. Left to right, they are Miss Frew, Joy Paton, Helen Shantz, Marvyn Walker, Ida Bruneau, Huguette Girouard, Pat Sue-a-Quan and Frances Wren. The other member of the class, Miss June Berwick, left for England a few days before the end of the course.

in the teaching option of the B.Sc.(H.Ec.) course get a special two-week course in weaving immediately following final examinations in May. And fourth year students in physical health and education at McGill come out during the month of February for short courses in leather work and weaving.

Then there are the evening classes. These are conducted in wood working and leather work, and other crafts will be added just as soon as facilities permit. They are open to staff members, students, and residents of the communities along the Lakeshore. They are proving very popular, and although each class is limited to ten students, extra classes are organized to make room for everybody who wants to learn a new skill. At the present rate, the Handicrafts workshops will be open every evening next winter. The evening classes are taught by the same two instructors, with extra assistance from talented members of the College staff.

It is evident that the handicrafts staff keep busy. But, not satisfied with all the activities we have already described, they have organized a summer school in art, weaving, leather work, and wood work, which will be in session from July 4th to July 29th. Some fifty students are expected to register for this course.

In a written story it is difficult, in fact, impossible, to describe the extraordinary range of articles that are made in these handicraft workrooms in the basement of the

Main Building. But visitors to the Macdonald Royal, and those who come to the College on Farm Day, never fail to stop at the Handicrafts exhibit to look, and marvel and exclaim. If you feel the urge to take a course in one of these crafts, and would like to have further information, the Handicrafts Division, Macdonald College, P.Q., will be very glad to hear from you.



Prof. J. E. Lattimer, who retired last session, has been appointed Emeritus Professor of Agricultural Economics by the Senate of McGill University, in recognition of his long and devoted services to the University and to Macdonald College. In the photo, taken at Convocation on May 29th, Prof. Lattimer is congratulated by Chancellor Tyndale, while Principal James looks on approvingly.

## Information on Conservation

Pasture improvement is an extremely important part of any soil conservation program. The following books on conservation, and additional books and pamphlets, may be borrowed through the Information Centre, Adult Education Service, Macdonald College, Que.:

- Malabar Farm, by Bromfield.
- Out of the Earth, by Bromfield.
- Pleasant Valley, by Bromfield.
- Using and Managing Our Soils, by Gustafson.
- Soils That Support Us, by Kellogg.
- Management of Farm Woodlots, by Guise.
- Conservation Handbook, by Ordway.
- Grass (U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, 1948).

In addition, some very useful literature may be secured free on application to the Experimental Farms Service, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa. They include **Better Pastures in Eastern Canada**, **Grass Ensilage**, and **Equipment for Handling Grass Ensilage**.

## Sees Big Need for Leaders

The important work to be done in Canada's rural communities was impressed on the graduating class at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College, Truro, by M. B. Davis, Dominion Horticulturist.

"As the years go by", Mr. Davis said, "it will be your duty to offer leadership in many fields, some of which we might enumerate: the field of good husbandry; the field of agricultural marketing; the field of agricultural education at a lower level than that of an agricultural college; the field of municipal affairs; and in general good citizenship."

"Aside from aspiring to be good farmers," said Mr. Davis, "you should be equipped to take an active interest in municipal affairs and even in matters pertaining to our general government. Remember, the world today is in two camps; one camp in which the dictates of the few are followed by the masses, without dissent or debate, and our camp in which the masses can, and do, exert a profound influence upon government. That influence, however, must be good, and sound, and it can only be thus so long as we have in our midst a sufficient number of citizens well informed and of good will."

"Your generation", he concluded, "will have the decision on which way we are to go. See that you are ready to take your share of interest and responsibility in the shaping of things to come".

## Coady, Corbett Honored at C.A.A.E. Annual Meeting

Leaders in adult education representing every province in Canada paid tribute to the outstanding work of two distinguished citizens during the annual banquet of the Canadian Association for Adult Education held in Hart House, University of Toronto, on May 22nd. On that occasion Dr. M. M. Coady, Extension Director of St. Francis-Xavier University and retiring president of the C.A.A.E., and Dr. E. A. Corbett, Director of the CAAE since its inception in May, 1934, were joint recipients in the third annual presentation of the Henry Marshall Tory Award. The award recognizes the most significant contribution to adult education in Canada during the year.

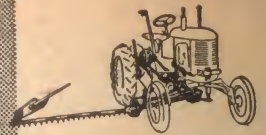
# Here's what a Massey-Harris "Pony" will do . . .



in 10 hours on 6 gallons of gasoline it will plough 3½ acres or disc 20 acres or mow 24 acres or do any similar amount of work . . . . .

The Massey-Harris "Pony" is the biggest small tractor on the market. It has the power, the weight, and the traction to do any kind of farm work. The above examples give you an idea how much finished work it can put behind it in 10 hours. Can be equipped with special quick-mounted tools for most kinds of work, as shown at the right. Also an ideal power unit for farm hauling . . . hay, grain, manure, or what have you . . . and for light belt work.

Fuel cost is low . . . averages just a little more than half a gallon per hour. Brings real power farming to small farms. Pays off as a chore tractor on big farms.



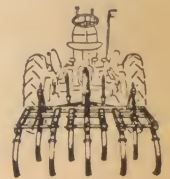
5, 5½ and 6-ft. mowers . . field and highway models.



5-foot disc harrow



10, 12 and 14-inch plows



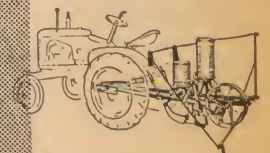
9-tooth field cultivator



Row-crop cultivators, spring and stiff tooth models



Narrow-row cultivator



1-row and 2-row corn-planters



Bulldozer blade